

## **Healthy Planet = Healthy Kids Preventing Pollution in 2000**

Pollution Prevention Week Joint Resolution September 18-24, 2000

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Tel 617-367-8558 Fax 617-367-0449 www.newmoa.org **WHEREAS**, the Northeastern State Environmental and Public Health Commissioners and Directors and the EPA New England and Region 2 Administrators believe that preventing pollution is critical to improving the health status of children in the Northeast Region because they are key to our future;

## And, WHEREAS

- a clean environment and safe food are critical to our children's health and well being;
- C children are particularly vulnerable to the health risks of a polluted environment, including contamination of our air, water, soil, and food supply;
- there have been significant increases in the incidence of certain childhood illnesses, especially asthma, in the Region that have been demonstrated to be aggravated by air pollution and other environmental contaminants;
- persistent and toxic environmental contaminants, including lead and mercury, continue to pose significant health threats to children in the Northeast;
- pollution prevention is a safe and cost effective way of reducing the health risks to children;
- schools, health care organizations, businesses, communities, and parents can undertake a number of preventive measures to address environmental health threats to children;
- c schools and other institutions can pro-actively purchase environmentally preferable materials and products to eliminate the use of those that can cause potential harm;
- C health care providers can educate their patients about environmental health threats, especially lead and mercury exposure, and the preventive steps that parents can take;
- businesses, institutions, and communities can reduce their use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste;

- C communities can adopt integrated pest management practices to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and can alert parents when pesticide spraying is scheduled to occur in public areas to minimize children's exposure; and
- C everyone can help improve air quality and reduce asthma by limiting individual vehicle use and taking advantage of clean forms of public transportation, where available.

**THEREFORE**, Environmental and Public Health officials in the Northeast, hereby proclaim September 18-24, 2000 as Pollution Prevention Week and encourage all citizens to join in this A He kiny planet = Healthy Kids and we need both for a safe and prosperous future.

Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner

State of Connecticut

Department of Environmental Protection

Martha G. Kirkpatrick, Commissioner

State of Maine

Department of Environmental Protection

Bob Durand, Secretary State of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Lauren A. Liss, Commissioner

State of Massachusetts

Department of Environmental Protection

Robert W. Varney, Commissioner

State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services

John P. Cahill, Commissioner

State of New York

Department of Environmental Conservation

Jan Reitsma! Director State of Rhode Island

Department of Environmental Management

Scott Johnstone, Secretary

State of Vermont

Agency of Natural Resources



Canute Dalmasse, Commissioner State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Mindy Lubber, Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region New England

Joxel Garcia, MD, Commissioner State of Connecticut

Department of Public Health

Howard Koh, MD, MPH, Commissioner, State of Massachusetts

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Department of Public Health

Antonia C. Novello, MD, MPH, Dr.PH, Commissioner, State of New York Department of Health

M. Jane Kitchel, Secretary,

State of Vermont Human Services

Jeanne Fox, Regional Administrator
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Dora Anne Mills, MD, MPH, Director State of Maine Bureau of Health, Department of Human Services

Donald Shumway, Commissioner,

State of New Hampshire

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Patricia A. Nolan, MD, MPH, Director, State of Rhode Island

Health Department

Yan K. Carney, MD, MPH, Commissioner,

State of Vermont

Department of Public Health